

Outlook 2015
March 1 & 8
in your Tulsa World



31°



high honor: finalist for national award

Central Library renovation progresses as crews remove sign

Story Comments Image (3)

Print Font

Posted: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 12:00 am | Updated: 12:36 pm, Wed Feb 25, 2015.

Previous Next



Construction workers take down the Central Library sign Tuesday in downtown Tulsa. Much of the demolition work on the \$50 million renovation has been completed, officials say. JAMES GIBBARD/Tulsa World



Buy this photo

By COREY JONES World Staff Writer | 0 comments

On the day the last Central Library sign came down in a multimillion-dollar renovation project, the Tulsa City-County Library was named a finalist for the nation's highest honor bestowed upon libraries for service to communities.

The 2,000-pound, 20-foot-long sign — with "Central Library" in yellow letters on a blue curved background — was removed by a crane from the arches on the southeast corner of the building during a media event Tuesday at Fifth Street and Denver Avenue.

Before the ceremonial demolition, Tulsa City-County Library CEO Gary Shaffer offered an update on the progress of the \$50 million Central Library project.

The Tulsa Library Trust has exceeded efforts to raise roughly half of the project's funds from private donations by collecting more than \$30 million, Shaffer said.

The work remains on schedule, he said, with an opening in summer 2016 anticipated.

From a construction standpoint, Shaffer said the demolition work is nearly finished. The installation of plumbing, heating, ventilation

DONG'S
4144 E. Admiral Pl. Like us on Facebook
SPRINGFIELD SALE

XD, 45 ACP 4" \$490
XDM, 3.8" 9MM OR 40 \$575
XD, 9MM, 40 S&W 3" OR 4" (BLK) \$475
XDS, 9MM OR 45 ACP (BLK) \$500
*some restrictions apply

CLICK HERE 918.834.7989

BEST in the WORLD And the winner is...
Click now to find out

SIGN UP FOR OUR BREAKING NEWS EMAIL NEWSLETTER

Video

How to donate

People can contribute to the the public fundraising campaign in a variety of ways.

- Visit the library's gift shop at tulsalibrary.org/giftshop and purchase "Libraries Change Lives" items or shop for items through the Amazon.com link and a portion of the proceeds will go to the project.
- Go to any Tulsa City-County Library and

purchase a "Libraries Change Lives" gel bracelet for \$1 or a vanity license plate for \$10.

For more information and other ways to support the project, contact Janis Updike Walker, Tulsa Library Trust executive director, at 918-398-6644 or jwalker@tulsalibrarytrust.org.

and cooling equipment, electrical systems and interior wall framing is underway.

Shaffer also used the event to draw attention to the Institute of Museum and Library Services' announcement that the Tulsa system is among 30 finalists for the 2015 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. For 21 years, the award has recognized libraries and museums that demonstrate extraordinary and innovative approaches to public service.

"To me it signifies we have one of the best library systems in the nation," Shaffer said, adding that he doesn't believe the rebuilding project played a role in earning the honor.

The Tulsa City-County Library Commission is contributing \$15 million to the renovation, while an additional \$10 million comes from Improve Our Tulsa funds approved by city voters in November 2013.

Shaffer said the project has received \$5 million of the Improve Our Tulsa funds, and

the balance of the city's promised monies will be dispersed when the upcoming fiscal year begins in July.

However, Shaffer said donations are still being sought because project costs — already above initial projections of \$48 million — could increase.

He also noted that the fundraising is an opportunity for people to have a hand in the project and get their names put on a special donor wall at the Central Library.

As for the national recognition, Shaffer called it an "amazing achievement" to be among the "best of the best." More than 150 institutions were nominated, and other finalists include special and research libraries, a zoo, science museums and botanical gardens. The winners will be named in early April.

"Museums and libraries are the lifeblood of our communities, serving as trusted providers of critical resources, educational training, skills development, and civic and cultural enrichment," said Maura Marx, acting director of the libraries and museums institute, in a statement. "We salute Tulsa City-County Library for exemplary leadership in promoting lifelong learning while engaging and inspiring the public."

Shaffer said the award nomination, forwarded by a library commissioner, is a first for the Tulsa system.

The Central Library revamp will include a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning center, an education center, maker spaces, an Oklahoma history room, an auditorium and a children's garden. The facility also will be more spacious.

A new four-level, 133-stall parking garage will be constructed to accommodate the anticipated increase in library users.

An emphasis will be placed on having a "great deal" of e-books available online as well, Shaffer said.

Latest Local Offers

American Staffcorp - Check Out Our Openings

Check out our current openings at www.americanstaffcorp.com. Apply online or see Cathy at 6301 S Mingo. M-F 8-11 or 1-4.



McGraw Realtors - Free Market Analysis

Call us today to receive a FREE Market Analysis on your home!



Southern Agriculture - \$25 Heartworm Blood Test



Key Personnel - Your Job Search is Over!

Apply at Key Personnel 9717 E 42nd St, Suite 200 on Mon-Fri between 8am-3pm for these great opportunities or email resume to keyind@keyjobs.com.



Metro Christian Academy Open House

Open House March 3, 2015 8:30AM and April 9, 2015 6:00PM



[View more local offers](#)

Popular

Commented

Stories

- Controversial bills giving Oklahoma a black eye, Tulsa Regional Chamber says
- Rep. Sally Kern's 'conversion therapy' bill adopted by Oklahoma House committee
- Tulsa man dies after being shocked by Osage Nation officer outside casino
- Death Notices for February 24
- OU Sports: Cale Gundy: 'We're gonna run the ball'
- TVtype: Bobbi Kristina Brown brought out of her medically-induced coma
- Coach Hal Mumme designed Air Raid offense, talks about installation work ahead at Oklahoma

More

Photos

"It's more about people space in today's library," he said.

Corey Jones 918-581-8359

corey.jones@tulsaworld.com

Recommend 21
 Tweet 1
0
0

Discuss
Print

Similar Stories

- Open records bill won't get to House floor in current form
- What the Ale: Founders Brewing Co. founder coming to Tulsa for special events
- For a Hale Rangers team that rarely savors the satisfaction of victory, a commitment to the game is the grand prize
- It's that time: Holland Hall Book Fair set for Saturday
- Movie review: 'Maps to the Stars' a tour through worst of Hollywood, human nature

Most Read

- John Waldron: Threat to AP U.S. history part of general assault on public education
- Controversial bills giving Oklahoma a black eye, Tulsa Regional Chamber says
- Rep. Sally Kern's 'conversion therapy' bill adopted by Oklahoma House committee
- Tulsa woman arrested in attack on disabled boyfriend
- Tulsa man dies after being shocked by Osage Nation officer outside casino

Join the conversation.

Anyone can post a comment on Tulsa World stories. You can either sign in to your Tulsa World account or use Facebook.

[Sign in to your online account](#) . If you don't have an account, [create one](#) for free . To comment through Facebook, please [sign in to your account](#) before you comment.

Read our [commenting policy](#).

jfanch-208



More...

Share on Twitter

Share on Facebook

Your real name will display with your post.

Print comments

Videos

Report A Correction

Report a correction to editors when you see inaccurate content at tulsaworld.com/corrections.

Featured Businesses

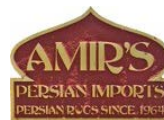
Sunshine Furniture
918-250-7880
<http://www.sunshineok.com>



Avon Store
918-369-7144
<http://www.youravon.com/kprewett>



Amir's Persian Imports
918-744-6464



Patty & Terrie's Pet Grooming
918-499-2344



Don Carlton Honda
918-622-3636
<http://doncarltonhonda.com/>



[Find a local business](#)

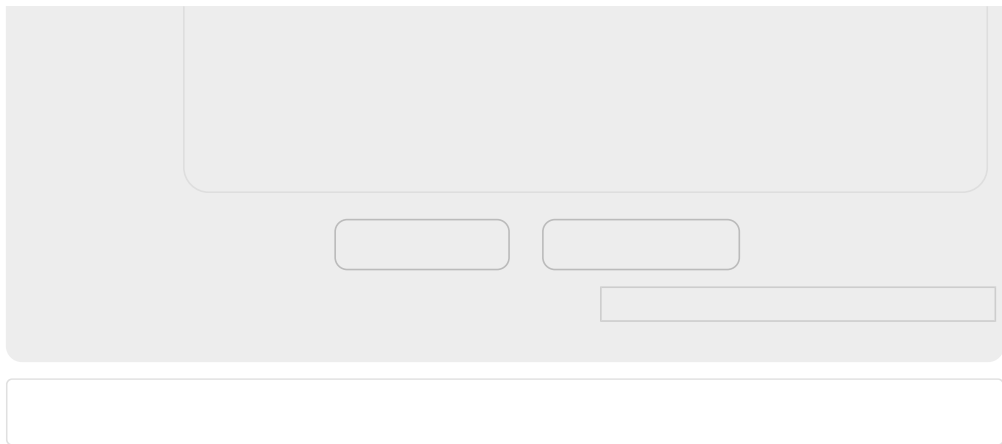
Submit Your News!



We're always interested in hearing about news in our community. Let us know what's going on!

[Submit news](#)

Today's E-Edition



SPORTS: Fields of Honor QuikTrip 500 gearing up: **B1** SPORTS: Golden Hurricane blows out Tulane: **B1**

THURSDAY **TULSA WORLD** \$2.00

SERVING NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA SINCE 1907

Court hears Tulsa headscarf case

Panel gives an 'F' to exams

It's hard to see a woman wearing a headscarf in a courtroom, but that's what happened Tuesday in Tulsa County District Court. The court heard arguments in a case involving a woman who was denied a job because she wore a headscarf.

ON PAROLE: LOCKED UP AS A TEEN

Jesil Wilson is released after 17 years in prison

Wilson, 37, was released from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary after 17 years in prison. He was arrested in 1987 for a crime he committed as a teenager.

Bet on it: Trader Joe's is on its way

Trader Joe's is coming to Tulsa. The store is expected to open in the near future.

Local News

Local news stories including community events and local business updates.

Weather

Weather forecast for Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Market

Market news and financial updates.

Obituaries

Obituary notices for local residents.

Classifieds

Classified advertising section.

Local Today's Tulsa World

Local Today's Tulsa World: A daily newspaper serving the Tulsa area.

Follow the World online

Follow the World online: Access the newspaper's website for more news and updates.

Today's Top 100

Today's Top 100: A list of the top 100 items in the Tulsa area.

Local Today's Tulsa World

Local Today's Tulsa World: A daily newspaper serving the Tulsa area.

Follow the World online

Follow the World online: Access the newspaper's website for more news and updates.

Today's Top 100

Today's Top 100: A list of the top 100 items in the Tulsa area.

AdChoices

Sign up for email newsletters

Email:

- Breaking News
- Daily Headlines
- DailyDealTulsa.com Offers
- Advertising Offers
- Latest News - (4PM)
- OU Sports
- OSU Sports
- TU Sports
- High School Sports
- Food & Restaurants
- Weekend: Things to Do
- Home & Garden
- Downtown Tulsa

Real Estate

Contest Alerts

Outdoors

FEATURED JOBS

Machinists

green co staffing

02.21.15 | Tulsa, OK (74145)

Manufacturing; Line Operator; Senior Line Operator; Shipping Warehouseman; Resin Controller; Maintenance Technician; Packaging Specialist or Extrusion

Paragon Films

02.21.15 | Tulsa, OK (74145)

Assistant Director of Housing Services

Mental Health Association In Tulsa

02.21.15 | Tulsa, OK (74145)

Display Ads

DAKIL AUCTIONEERS

Updated: Yesterday

SHERWOOD CONSTRUCTION CO

Updated: Yesterday

FALUN DAFA ASSOCIATION OKLAHOMA

posted: February 26

RK SHOWS

Updated: February 04

TULSA COUNTY

Updated: Yesterday

[More Display Ads](#)



Customer Service/Questions on online accounts or subscription access: 918-582-0921, 800-444-6552, circulation@tulsaworld.com

Newsroom: 918-581-8400, news@tulsaworld.com

Website: web@tulsaworld.com

Place a print ad: 918-581-8510, advertising@tulsaworld.com

Place a digital ad: 918-581-8559, advertising@tulsaworld.com

Place a recruitment ad: 918-732-8140, careerads@tulsaworld.com

Place a classified ad: 918-583-2121, advertising@tulsaworld.com

Address: 315 S. Boulder Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74103

Sections

- Home
- News
- Sports
- Business
- Scene
- Communities
- Blogs
- Opinion
- Weekend
- Weather
- Photo
- Video
- Obits
- Contests
- Classifieds
- Special Reports

Info

- About Us
- Contact Us
- Corrections
- Subscription Services
- Site Index
- Add Search Toolbar
- Privacy Policy
- Advertise
- Store
- Contractor
- Work at the Tulsa World
- Apply to be a carrier

Search

Search in:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| All | Opinion |
| News | Weekend |
| Sports | Photovideo |
| Business | Investigations |
| Scene | Obituaries |
| Communities | Photos |
| Blogs | Video |